



PATENT APPLICATION
Q67511

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Sadao OHSAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/980,112

Confirmation No.: 8145

Filed: November 30, 2001

For: LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING METHOD AND APPARATUS,
PLATE MAKING METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND INK
JET PRINTING METHOD AND APPARATUS

Allowed: May 21, 2004

Group Art Unit: 2854

Examiner: Stephen R. Funk

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith¹.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application (No. EP 00 93 5499) citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already

¹ JP 10-202822 was previously submitted via an IDS on February 21, 2002, and, therefore, is not submitted herewith. Also, although JP 04-43036 has been made of record by the Examiner in the Office Action of February 6, 2003, it is listed here again to correct a typographical error in the Examiner's listing thereof on the copy of PTO form-1449 enclosed with the February 6 Office Action and, thereby ensure its proper notation on any patent issuing from this application.

included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicants are submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from the communication from a foreign patent office and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is also attached.

Additionally, English-language Abstracts of the foreign language documents are submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any over-payments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is also attached.

Respectfully submitted,

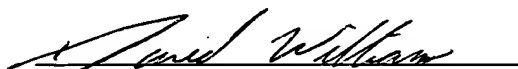
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 24, 2004


Daniel V. Williams
Registration No. 45,221



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JET PRINTING METHOD AND APPARATUS

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

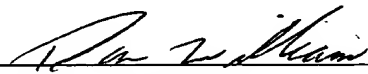
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

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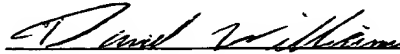
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.²

Respectfully submitted,

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23373

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Date: June 24, 2004

² Again, although JP 04-43036 has already been made of record, its inclusion on the present PTO form-1449 is only to ensure that it is correctly noted on any patent issuing from this application.

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/980,112 |
| Confirmation Number | 8145 |
| Filing Date | November 30, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Sadao OHSAWA |
| Art Unit | 2854 |
| Examiner Name | Stephen R. FUNK |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q67511 |

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| | | US 4,751,531 | A | 06-14-1998 | Saito, et al. |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP | 11-048486 | A | 02-23-1999 | Matsushita Electronic Ind. Co., Ltd. | Abstract |
| | | JP | 10-329325 | A | 12-15-1998 | Ricoh Co., Ltd. | Abstract |
| | | JP | 04-043036 | A | 02-13-1992 | Sumitomo Heavy Ind. Ltd. | Abstract |
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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.